



NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT NATIONAL SkillsUSA COMPETITION

About 225 Nebraska students and advisors recently attended the 50th National Leadership and Skills Conference, sponsored by SkillsUSA, in Louisville, KY.

Nebraska students were among more than 6,100 students from 52 states and territories competing in 99 occupational and leadership skill areas during the SkillsUSA Championships on June 24-25. SkillsUSA programs help establish industry standards for job skill training in the classroom.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce and to help each student excel. SkillsUSA is a national student organization that serves trade, industrial, technical and health occupation students in high schools and college/technical schools. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communication skills. The association emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free enterprise system and involvement in community service activities.

Here are the Nebraska students who received national awards:

Top Ten Award Winners:

- 1st Place - **Gold medalists**
 - **Opening and Closing Ceremonies - High School Division**
Nadezdha Hughes, Katei Hunt, Taylor Kramer, Abby Kring, Hallie Malsbury, Sydney McGahan, Breanna Patterson
North Platte High School, North Platte – Diane Livingston, advisor
 - **Medical Math – High School Division.**
Evan Mettenbrink
Seward High School, Seward - Kurt Holliday, advisor
 - **Electrical Construction Wiring – College/Technical Division**
Dan Riha
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - John Berger, advisor

○ 2nd Place – Silver medalists

- **TeamWorks – College/Technical Division**
Joshua Hall, Eric Karels, Brian Vodvarka, Jared Wilson
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Trevor Secora and David Horst, advisors
- **Extemporaneous Speech – High School Division**
Alexa Bruick
Seward High School, Seward - Kurt Holliday, advisor
- **Additive Manufacturing – High School Division**
Adolfo Diaz, Tommy Tran
Hastings High School, Hastings – Adam Skrdla, advisor
- **Motorcycle Service Technology – High School Division**
Austin Henry
Gretna High School, Gretna - Jason Novotny, advisor
- **Motorcycle Service Technology – College/Technical Division**
John Shaw
Southeast Community College, Lincoln - Terry Kuebler, advisor
- **Plumbing – High School Division**
Christian Weeks
Papillion-La Vista South High School, Papillion - Roger Campbell, advisor
- **Audio-Radio Production – College/Technical Division**
Susannah Meng-Frecker, Joshua Robberts
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Bob Maass, advisor

3rd Place – Bronze medalists

- **Digital Cinema Production – College/Technical Division**
Lauren Abell, Roland Massow II
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Bob Maass, advisor
- **Welding – College/Technical Division**
Levi Thomlison
Southeast Community College, Lincoln - Dan Zabel, advisor

○ 4th Place

- **Health Knowledge Bowl – High School Division**
Laurel Heskett, Allison Kallman, Michelle Kuuseoks, Ryan Vocolka **Millard Horizon High School, Millard - Kent Speer, advisor**
- **CNC Technician – High School Division**
Corey King
Hastings High School, Hastings - Matt Hurt, advisor
- **Industrial Motor Control – College/Technical Division**
Timothy Martin
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Geoff Horejs, advisor

- **Mechatronics – College/Technical Division**
Craig Purdy, Oscar Simon
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Geoff Horejs, advisor
- 5th Place
 - **Nurse Assisting Millard – High School Division**
Katie Fichter
Millard Horizon High School, Millard - Kent Speer, advisor
 - **Sheet Metal – High School Division**
Daniel Levy
Millard North High School, Millard - David Patten, advisor
 - **Engineering Technology/Design – High School Division**
Jared Nightingale, Juston Radcliffe, Jonah Staab
Kearney High School, Kearney - Jeff Shield, advisor
- 6th Place
 - **Medical Terminology – High School Division**
Grace Taylor
Millard Horizon High School, Millard - Kent Speer, advisor
 - **Action Skills – College/Technical Division**
Adam Morales
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Pamela Berger, advisor
- 7th Place
 - **Medical Terminology – High School Division**
Tayler Malsam
Millard Horizon High School, Millard - Kent Speer, advisor
 - **Career Pathways: Natural Resources – High School Division**
Erika Goracke, Hanna Jasa, Thomas Tucker
Sterling High School, Sterling - Chris Salberg, advisor
 - **Television/Video Production – College/Technical Division**
Daniel Finkner, Chelsea Wallace
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Bob Maass, advisor
- 8th Place
 - **Health Occupations Professional Portfolio – High School Division**
Dylan Dingbaum
Millard Horizon High School, Millard - Kent Speer, advisor
 - **Mechatronics - High School Division**
Mike Boeding, Alou Manzano
Columbus High School, Columbus – Tracy Dodson, advisor
 - **Medical Assisting Seward – High School Division**
Montana Hill
Seward High School, Seward - Kurt Holliday, advisor

- **CNC Technician – College/Technical Division**
Spencer Schoof
Southeast Community College, Milford - Randy Koch, advisor
- **Mobile Electronics Installation – High School Division**
Drew Spangler
Louisville High School, Louisville - Jesse Zweep, advisor

○ 10th Place

- **3-D Visualization and Animation – High School Division**
Aaron Blersch, Peyton Owens
Seward High School, Seward - Kurt Holliday, advisor
- **Electronics Technology – College/Technical Division**
Roy Canterbury
Metropolitan Community College, Omaha - Pamela Berger, advisor
- **Power Equipment Technology – High School Division**
Jared Herman
Fairbury High School, Fairbury - Tom Scott, advisor